

donated the contents of his bookstore, an estimated 40,000 volumes, to a very grateful Concord College Foundation.

Madam Speaker, in closing, I want to ask this great body to reflect for a moment to honor the life of a great man, faithful husband and father, and an honorable American. As the Lord called his servant home; his generosity, compassion, and commitment to his community will live on forever in the memories of all who had the high honor knowing Arnold "Nub" Porterfield.

#### TRIBUTE TO THE 440TH AIRLIFT WING BASED IN MILWAUKEE, WISCONSIN

#### HON. GWEN MOORE

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 7, 2007*

Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 440th Airlift Wing's long and distinguished history. It was formed in 1943 at Baer Field in Indiana, but has been based at General Mitchell International Airport—Air Reserve Station located in the Fourth Congressional District, since 1957. The airport and Air Reserve Station are both named in honor of Brig. Gen. William Mitchell, the Milwaukeean who is considered the "father" of the modern Air Force.

After moving to Milwaukee, the 440th Troop Carrier Group became the 440th Airlift Wing and in 1967, underwent another name change becoming the Reserve Tactical Airlift Wing. The 440th has received many honors including: the Air Force Association's Outstanding Reserve Unit during 1963, 1964, 1966 and 1968; the Republic of Vietnam Gallantry Cross with Palm, 1968: 14 Feb—11 Mar for airlift operations to the Vietnam Theater; the Air Force Outstanding Unit Award for the period Oct 1985—30 Sep 1987; the Air Force Outstanding Unit Award for the period 2 Oct 1992—2 Oct 1993; the Air Force Outstanding Unit Award for the period 1 Jun 1997—30 Sep 1998; and in 1998 received the highest score for a Reserve Unit in two years. In 1989, the 440th was equipped with eight new C-130s. The first C-130H was dubbed "The Spirit of Wisconsin."

The 440th has performed admirably in virtually every US combat theater and tactical operation including: the Cuban Missile Crisis; Vietnam Conflict; Operation Desert Storm and Desert Shield in the Persian Gulf States; and was the first wing unit to deploy members on Anti-Terror Operations after the September 11, 2001 assault on America. In fact, "The Flying Badgers" have been constantly available to provide airlift support, superb aircraft maintenance and security training and support.

In 2006 the Base Realignment and Closure Commission (BRAC) ordered the 440th to be reassigned to Pope Air Force Base in North Carolina. Flight operations in Milwaukee will end in June, 2007 and will resume at the Wing's new location at Pope AFB.

Madam Speaker, for these reasons, I am honored to pay tribute to the 440th for their stellar performance, dedication and service to my district and to the nation.

#### HONORING THE SERVICE OF ARTHUR C. NERIANI

#### HON. CHRISTOPHER S. MURPHY

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 7, 2007*

Mr. MURPHY of Connecticut. Madam Speaker, as we celebrate the 63rd anniversary of the D-Day invasion, I rise today to honor the service and valor of all veterans, and especially the contributions of Arthur Neriani, who served bravely in World War II.

The son of two Italian immigrants, Arthur Neriani grew up in Avon, CT, when Avon was still considered a farm town. As a young man, Art spent much of his time with a group of 15 boys from the same neighborhood. Organized by Gildo Consolini, the boys played softball on a local team called the Avon Tigers. Bonded through friendship and love of country, 14 of these young men went on to serve their country during World War II.

At the age of 21, Art's name was at the top of the list at the Draft Board 2B in Unionville. As the first from the Farmington Valley to be drafted, Art's unique status was covered in the Hartford Courant. In 1940, Art joined the National Guard, Company M, 169th Regiment, 43rd Division in New Britain. In 1941, the division was federalized and sent to train in Camp Blanding in Starke, FL. After his year of service was almost complete on December 7, 1941, it was soon made clear he was not going home. Soon after Pearl Harbor, all of the soldiers at Camp Blanding were asked to sign up for Officer Candidate School. It was not Corporal Neriani, but rather a friend, who signed Art's name in for consideration. Of the 26 candidates who stepped forward, only 2 were accepted—one of which was Art Neriani. After completion of candidate school, Art arrived on the beaches of Normandy as the 2nd Lieutenant of the 8th Infantry Division on July 4, 1944, referred to as D plus 28 (28 days after D-Day).

In 1945, after the gruesome battle in Huertgen Forest, Germany, Officer Neriani received a battlefield promotion from 2nd Lieutenant to 1st Lieutenant. When he was awarded the Bronze Star medal for his leadership and courage in battle he refused it. He felt he had not earned the decoration. To him, this type of honor and recognition was better served in honoring the other men—the ones who paid the greatest sacrifice with their lives.

1st Lt. Neriani battled through Europe, liberated German and Polish political prisoners from Nazi concentration camps, and reached the end of the war when meeting with Russian allies in May 1945. Of the 14 servicemen from Avon that were sent to war, all but one returned home—Gildo Consolini. It is in honor of him that the Avon's Veterans of Foreign War Post is named.

A man of honor and courage, Captain Neriani saw many battles, lost friends and brothers, and was one of many to bring freedom to Europe. We owe our veterans, those here and now gone, this country's greatest debt of gratitude. I call on my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to men like Art Neriani—to the dedicated men and women in our military who proudly serve this Nation and protect our freedom.

#### THE JUBILEE ACT OF 2007

#### HON. MAXINE WATERS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 7, 2007*

Ms. WATERS. Madam Speaker, I am proud to introduce the Jubilee Act for Responsible Lending and Expanded Debt Cancellation of 2007. This bill will expand existing debt cancellation programs for the world's poorest countries and ensure that the benefits from debt cancellation will not be eroded by future lending to these impoverished nations.

Existing debt cancellation programs have freed up resources to reduce poverty in some of the world's poorest countries. Cameroon is using its savings of \$29.8 million from debt cancellation in 2006 for national poverty reduction priorities, including infrastructure, social sector and governance reforms. Uganda is using its savings of \$57.9 million on improving energy infrastructure to ease acute electricity shortages, as well as primary education, malaria control, healthcare, and water infrastructure. Zambia is using its savings of \$23.8 million to increase spending on agricultural projects and to eliminate fees for healthcare in rural areas. However, there are many needy and deserving poor countries that have yet to benefit from the cancellation of their debts.

The Jubilee Act will make 67 of the world's poorest countries eligible for complete debt cancellation by the United States, the World Bank, the International Monetary Fund (IMF), and other bilateral and multilateral creditors. In order to receive debt cancellation, the governments of these countries will be required to allocate the savings from debt cancellation towards spending on poverty-reduction programs. They will also have to engage interested parties within their societies, including a broad cross-section of civil society groups, in the spending allocation process; produce an annual report on this spending; and make it publicly available.

Countries would be excluded from receiving debt cancellation under the Jubilee Act if they have an excessive level of military expenditures; provide support for acts of international terrorism; fail to cooperate on international narcotics control matters; or engage in a consistent pattern of human rights violations. Countries also would be excluded if they lack transparent and effective budget execution and public financial management systems to ensure that the savings from debt cancellation would be spent on reducing poverty.

The Jubilee Act will establish a framework for responsible lending in order to preserve the benefits that debt cancellation has provided to poor countries and their people. The Jubilee Act requires the United States Secretary of the Treasury to take action to end the predatory practices of "vulture funds," private investment funds that buy up the debts of poor countries at reduced prices just before these countries receive debt cancellation and then sue these countries to recover the original value of the debts plus interest. Finally, the Jubilee Act will require the Secretary of the Treasury to develop and promote policies to prevent bilateral and private creditors from eroding the benefits of debt cancellation through irresponsible or exploitive lending.

The Jubilee Act will expand debt cancellation to all needy and deserving poor countries